

ORIGINAL

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VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY
DOCKET ROOM

August 29, 2002

Mr. Joe Werner
Chief, Telecommunications Division
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

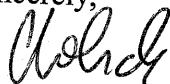
Re: TRA Docket No. 02-00879
Section 254(e) Certification of
Ben Lomand Communications, Inc., to Receive
USF Disbursements in Calendar Year 2003

Dear Mr. Werner:

Attached hereto is the Certification Letter of Levoy Knowles, Executive Vice President of Ben Lomand Communications, Inc. (the "Company"), certifying that the Company is in compliance with the requirements of Section 254(e) and the requirements established by the Commission in *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001) ("Order") and codified at 47 C.F.R. § 54.314.

In addition to this original, I am submitting thirteen copies of this letter, pursuant to TRA Rule 1220-1-1-.03, as well as a date "stamp and return" copy (and accompanying postage prepaid, self-addressed envelope) that I ask you to please use for this purpose. All correspondence and inquiries concerning this filing should be addressed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Clifford C. Rohde
Counsel to Ben Lomand Communications, Inc.

Encl.



August 23, 2002

Mr. Joe Werner
Chief, Telecommunications Division
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Re: TRA Docket No. 02-00879
Section 254(e) Certification of
Ben Lomand Communications, Inc.
To Receive USF Disbursements
in Calendar Year 2003

Dear Mr. Werner:

I, Levoy Knowles, Executive Vice-President of Ben Lomand Communications, Inc. (the "Company") do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. I am the Executive Vice-President of the Company;
2. The Company is a "rural telephone company" as defined in 47 U.S.C. §153(37), subject to the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority;
3. The Company is eligible for disbursements from the federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
4. The Company will utilize its USF disbursements for high cost support (including any high cost loop support, local switching support, high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high cost model support, and hold harmless support) received in 2003 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Sincerely yours,

Levoy Knowles
Executive Vice-President

BEN LOMAND COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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